

Remarks

In the Specification:

Line 14 of page 1 of the specification is amended to correct the spelling of "describe" and line 26 of page 18 of the specification is amended to delete the second occurrence of the word "as" as suggested by the Examiner.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-12, and 15-18 were pending.

Claims 1, 3 and 15-18 are cancelled.

Claims 2, 4-10, 12 and 14 are amended.

Claim 11 is original.

Claims 19-24 are new.

The application now contains claims 2, 4-12, and 19-24.

Claims 2 and 8 are amended to be independent claims. Claim 2 is further amended to insert limitations from claim 1 regarding R¹ and R², delete as values for Ar¹ and Ar² the first, fourth, fifth and sixth structures and to replace them with structures differing only by the inclusion of substituent R⁶, and to insert the definition for R⁶. Support is found in claims 5 and 6.

Claims 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 14 are amended to be dependent from claim 2.

Claim 4 is further amended for clarity by rewording the first two lines of the claim, slightly rewording the beginning of the definition of repeating unit -T- and by deleting multiple ranges from the second and third lines from the end of the claim. Support is inherent in the claim.

Claim 5 is further amended for clarity by replacing the structures for the repeating units with the limitations from now cancelled claim 18 and by deleting from the definition of R⁶ and R⁷ the phrase "as defined above and are especially". Support is found in original claim 5.

Claim 9 is further amended for clarity by deleting multiple ranges and deleting as redundant the phrase "wherein R¹, R², Ar¹, Ar² and Ar³ are as defined in claim 1". Claim 10 is further amended for clarity by inserting immediately following "comprising the polymer" the phrase "comprising a repeating unit of the formula I". Support is inherent in the claims.

Claim 12 is amended to delete from the end of the claim "according to claim 1" and insert instead "comprising a repeating unit of the formula I". Support is found in claim 10.

Claim 19 is supported by original claim 10. Claim 20 is added to reclaim material deleted from claim 5. Support for claim 21 is found on page 31 of the specification, lines 20-25.

Claim 22 is supported by original claim 1 and page 9 line 1 through page 10 line 10 of the specification. Support for claim 23 is found in now deleted claim 15 and claim 24 is supported by original claim 10.

No new matter is added.

Objections

The specification is objected to for errors at line 14 of page 1 and line 26 of page 18 for misspellings and repeated words. Applicants respectfully submit that the above amendments address and overcome the objections and kindly ask that they be withdrawn.

Claim 1 is objected to for the use of confusing language. While claim 1 is cancelled, new claim 22 is added to claim a large part of the material of claim 1. Applicants believe that the modified wording of claim 22 overcomes the objections to claim 1.

Claim 3 is objected to; claim 3 is cancelled.

Claims 2 and 8 are objected to for being dependent on a rejected base claim. Both claims are rewritten as independent claims. Claim 2 is slightly broadened in the instant amendments by allowing a substituent on four of the structures, however Applicants believe this broadening to be very minor. Applicants therefore kindly ask that the objections to claims 2 and 8 be withdrawn.

Rejections

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph due to confusion caused by Applicants' description of "repeating unit -T-". Applicants respectfully submit that the instant amendments to lines 1 and 2 make clear that there are 2 groups of repeating units, Ar³ and -T-. Repeating unit -T- is defined after the definition of Ar³ is complete.

Claims 5 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph due to uncertainty regarding which repeating units are being claimed and whether the alkyl group of R¹ and R² can be interrupted by oxygen or whether the alkyl groups must be substituted by halogen. Applicants have limited the repeating units of the claim to those of claim 18. It appears that the previous wording of claim 1 has caused some confusion about whether the alkyl groups of R¹ and R² must be substituted by halogen. Halogen substitution was meant to be optional as seen on page 4 lines 3-10 of the specification and in claim 1 as originally submitted. Applicants' agent apologizes for any confusion introduced during the preliminary amendments and believes that the relevant passages inserted into claim 2 and included in new claim 22 are reworded to avoid similar confusion.

Claims 6 is rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph due to the same uncertainty regarding whether the alkyl group of R¹ and R² can be interrupted by oxygen or whether the alkyl groups must be substituted by halogen. Applicants refer to the discussion in the previous paragraph and submit that the rejections are addressed and overcome.

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 4, 5, 6 and 18 under 35 USC 112 second paragraph are overcome and kindly ask that they be withdrawn.

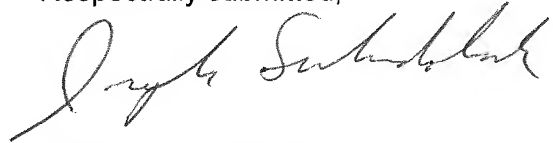
Claims 1, 3-7, 9-12 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Tiecke et al., US 6,451,459. The Action states that the material of claims 2 and 8 would be allowable if rewritten as independent claims. Claims 1, 3 and 15-18 are cancelled. Claims 4-7, 9-12 and 14 are now all ultimately dependent from claim 2.

Claims 2 and 8 are amended to be independent claims. As described above claim 2 is slightly broader than original claim 2, however, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is still allowable over Tiecke as the same heterocyclic cores are claimed in both the original claim and in instantly amended claim 2. Applicants therefore kindly ask that claims 2 and 8 be found allowable. Upon finding claims 2 and 8 allowable, Applicants further kindly ask that rejections the under 35 USC 102(b) of claims 4-7, 9-12 and 14 be withdrawn and also found allowable as said claims are now dependent from claim 2. Applicants also respectfully note that claims 19-21 are also dependent from claim 2 or 8.

Claim 22 is added to reclaim material from now deleted claim 1. New claim 22 includes additional limitations to Ar¹ and Ar² which removes all overlap with the compounds of Tiecke, US 6,451,459. Applicants therefore kindly ask that claim 22 and dependent claims 23 and 24 also be found allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit that all rejections are addressed and are overcome and kindly ask that they be withdrawn and claims 2, 4-12, and 19-24 be found allowable. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph C. Suhadolnik
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 56,880
filed under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Ciba Specialty Chemicals Corporation
Patent Department
540 White Plains Road
P.O. Box 2005
Tarrytown, NY 10591-9005
Tel. (914) 785-2973
Fax (914) 785-7102